

Claims:

1. A patient transport apparatus, comprising:
 - a frame adapted to support a patient in a plurality of positions including a standing position and a seated position,
 - 5 a plurality of wheels coupled to the frame,
 - a seat coupled to the frame above the plurality of wheels, the seat being movable from a generally vertical storage position to a generally horizontal seat position, and
 - 10 activated to brake at least one of the plurality of wheels when the seat is moved from the generally vertical storage position to the generally horizontal seat position.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the braking mechanism comprises a cable having a first end coupled to the seat and a second end coupled to a portion of the
15 brake mechanism.
3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the braking mechanism further comprises a brake lever, a brake body, and a brake member, the brake lever is coupled to the second end of the cable, and the brake body is positioned between the brake lever and
20 the brake member.
4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the braking mechanism further comprises a torsion spring having a first arm coupled to the brake body and a second arm coupled to a wheel.
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5. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the braking mechanism further comprises at least one cable support coupled to an interior region of the frame.
6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of wheels includes at least
30 one rear wheel and the braking mechanism is coupled to the rear wheel.
7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of wheels includes at least one caster.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the frame has a top end and a bottom end spaced apart from the top end, and further comprising a handle coupled to the frame adjacent the top end.

5 9. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a brake release mechanism coupled to the handle, the brake release mechanism including an actuator coupled to the brake mechanism to release the brake on the at least one wheel.

10 10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the handle includes a pair of hand grips extending generally horizontally outwardly from the frame, and further comprising a brake activating mechanism coupled to at least one hand grip and a brake release mechanism coupled to at least one hand grip.

15 11. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a seat support coupled between the frame and the seat.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the seat support comprises a sliding support mechanism.

20 13. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising first and second spaced apart arm members coupled to the frame.

25 14. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising a brake release mechanism coupled to the first arm member, the brake release mechanism including an actuator coupled to the brake mechanism to release the brake on the at least one wheel.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the brake release mechanism comprises a mechanical linkage pivotably coupled to the frame, a cable coupled to the mechanical linkage, a cable support, and a spring coupled to the cable support.

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16. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising a brake activating mechanism coupled to the first arm member, the brake activating mechanism including

an actuator coupled to the brake mechanism to activate the brake on the at least one wheel.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the brake activating mechanism
5 comprises a mechanical linkage pivotably coupled to the frame, a cable coupled to the mechanical linkage, a cable support, and a spring coupled to the cable support.

18. A patient transport apparatus comprising:
10 a base,
a frame extending upward from the base, the frame being configured to support a patient,
first and second spaced apart arm members coupled to the frame, the first and second arm members having an arm member length,
first and second spaced apart leg members cantilevered from the base, the first and second leg members having a leg member length, the first and second leg members having an arcuate shape extending outwardly from the base such that the leg member length is greater than the arm member length.
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19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the frame has a top end and a bottom
20 end spaced apart from the top end and the first and second leg members are coupled to the bottom end.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein each of the first and second leg members has a rear portion, a middle portion, and a front portion, and the rear portion is
25 coupled to the bottom end of the frame.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the middle portion of the leg members is generally horizontally extending.

30 22. The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a wheel coupled to the front portion of the leg members.

23. The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising a foot support coupled to the front portion of each of the leg members.

24. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the foot support is movable between a storage position and a use position.

25. The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a seat coupled to the frame.

26. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the seat has a seat length and the seat length is less than the leg member length.

27. The patient transport apparatus of claim 18, wherein the first and second leg members are adapted to movably support the frame, are shaped to fit substantially underneath a patient bed to engage a foot section of the bed when the foot section is moved from a position substantially parallel to a floor surface to a position substantially perpendicular to the floor surface.

28. The patient transport apparatus of claim 18, wherein the frame includes a top end, a bottom end spaced apart from the top end adjacent to a floor surface, a first side, and a second side spaced apart from the first side, and
the first and second leg members are coupled to the first and second sides of the frame, respectively, adjacent to the bottom end, the first and second leg members are adapted to movably support the frame, the first and second leg members include a rear portion extending substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the frame, a middle portion extending substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the frame, and a front portion extending substantially parallel to the frame, the rear portion is coupled to the frame, each of the rear portion, middle portion, and front portion have a length, and the length of the middle portion is greater than the length of the rear portion and the length of the front portion.

29. A patient transport apparatus comprising:
a frame adaptable for movably supporting a patient in a plurality of positions including a standing position and a seated position, and

first and second spaced apart arm members coupled to the frame, the first and second arm members being vertically movable relative to the frame from a first position to be operable as hand supports when the patient is in the standing position and a second position located below the first position to be operable as arm supports when the 5 patient is in the seated position, the first and second arm members also being pivotably coupled to the frame between an outwardly-extending use position and a downwardly pivoted storage position.

30. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, wherein each of the arm
10 members is pivotable 360 degrees around a horizontal axis.

31. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, further comprising a brake release mechanism coupled to at least one of the first and second arm members.

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32. The patient transport apparatus of claim 31, further comprising a brake activating mechanism coupled to at least one of the first and second arm members.

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33. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, wherein the first and second arm members are pivotably coupled to the frame using a rotary locking mechanism.

34. The patient transport apparatus of claim 33, wherein the rotary locking mechanism includes a tightening knob.

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35. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, wherein the first and second arm members are vertically movably coupled to the frame using a lock mechanism.

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36. The patient transport apparatus of claim 35, wherein the lock mechanism is one of a gas spring, a mech-lock, a hydraulic cylinder, a pneumatic cylinder, and a bolt screw.

37. The patient transport apparatus of claim 35, further comprising an arm adjustment mechanism coupled to the frame, the arm adjustment mechanism including an

actuator to selectively release the lock mechanism and permit movement of the first and second arm members relative to the frame.

38. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, wherein the frame has a top
5 end and a bottom end spaced apart from the top end, further comprising a handle coupled
to the frame adjacent the top end.

39. The patient transport apparatus of claim 38, further comprising an arm
member position adjustment mechanism coupled to the handle.

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40. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, wherein the frame has a top
end and a bottom end spaced apart from the top end, further comprising a support surface
coupled to the top end.

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41. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, further comprising an arm
member position adjustment mechanism coupled to the support surface.

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42. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, wherein
the frame has a top end, a bottom end, a middle portion located between
the top end and the bottom end, first and second sides, and first and second longitudinal
slots located in the first and second sides, respectively, and

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the first and second arm members are coupled to the first and second sides
of the frame, respectively, the first arm and second arm members are pivotable from a
first position aligned parallel to the frame to a second position aligned substantially
perpendicular to the frame and are slidable in the first and second longitudinal slots to
adjust a height of the first and second arm members relative to the frame.

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43. The patient transport apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:
a coupling mechanism coupling each of the first and second arm members
to the frame, the coupling mechanism comprising
a pivot coupler adapted to permit rotation of each of the first and second
arm members from a first position aligned substantially parallel to the frame to a second
position aligned substantially perpendicular to the frame, and

a vertical adjustment coupler adapted to permit movement of each of the first and second arm members from a third position adjacent a top portion of the frame to a fourth position adjacent to a middle portion of the frame.